

DISCOVERY

BROOKS
CITY-BASE
A Technology and Business Center

The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

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Through the Many Facets of Aerospace Medicine

Brooks Airman receives prestigious award

By Elizabeth Castillo

Discovery writer

Brooks has made its mark in the Air Force as a successful base, and its Airman are some of the finest in the country.

Senior Airman Antonia Cruz received the prestigious honor of Aeronautical Systems Center Airman of the Year.

"She clearly has a bright future in the Air Force," said Chief Master Sgt. Reggie Williams, command chief of the 311th Human Systems Wing. "Her recognition in this award is truly deserving. She is a star among stars at Brooks-City Base."

Airman Cruz has already proven to be successful, receiving numerous awards throughout her young Air Force career. Other recent accomplishments include the Air Force Institute of Operational Health Airman of the Quarter and the 311 HSW Airman of the Year for 2004.

Airman Cruz was first notified of her achievement via email after returning from leave. Her co-workers knew of her achievement and tricked her into thinking that she was in fact in trouble.



Senior Airman Antonia Cruz

She quickly made her way into her office where three colonels gathered to congratulate her as she read her email.

Airman Cruz said she "didn't expect to win" at the wing level, so receiving ASC Airman of the Year was "very exciting."

She is currently a radioanalytical technician and is responsible for the health and welfare of workers and the community. Airman Cruz aided in the well-being of workers after calculating F-16 live fire noise hazards, assessing safety requirements, thus preventing hearing loss for 105 workers. Her involvement in safety led to the

safeguarding of base drinking water supplies in which she conducted the testing of 48 samples, resulting in the protection of 16,000 workers and residents.

Airman Cruz is active in community involvement, and has participated in Habitat for Humanity and the Airman Council's Adopt-a-Highway project, where she picked up 50 bags of trash on a two-mile stretch of highway.

In addition her charitable pursuits which benefit the future of our environment, Airman Cruz is also actively involved in the education of students in the community. She readily donated her time and supported the "Read Across America" project where she mentored 80 fourth grade students in order to increase the student's interest in reading.

Airman Cruz is very pleased with her success and is hoping to receive the Air Force Airman of the Year Award. She will be attending the Air Force Materiel Command annual awards banquet on April 8 at the National Air Force Museum.

"Getting an award like this is big," she said. "It gives me more to shoot for."

Deployed Airman gets hands-on education

By Staff Sgt. William Farrow
386th Air Expeditionary Wing PA

Unlike any other career field, information managers can be assigned to any organization and work in any type of environment.

An information manager with the 386th Expeditionary Maintenance Group is getting a different look at how the Air Force conducts its business in a deployed environment.

"At (Brooks), my home station, I am primarily a webmaster, so it's a big difference working here for the maintenance squadron because it provides an opportunity to excel in the other areas of my career field," said Airman First Class Naomi Delgado, an information and workgroup manager at the Air Force Research Laboratory at Brooks City-Base.

See Airman/Pg. 6



Courtesy photo

Airman First Class Naomi Delgado, an information and workgroup manager with the Air Force Research Laboratory at Brooks, troubleshoots a computer problem. Airman Delgado left Brooks in May to work in Kuwait in the first deployment of her career.

UTSA study for NASA on target at Challenger Center

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The University of Texas at San Antonio, in partnership with the Challenger Learning Center at Brooks, is completing a phase I study for NASA here that someday may help the space agency resolve future problems in space.

The research study is designed to improve program manager performance in high-risk situations that could lead to enhanced training for future space management professionals.

"The key thing for NASA is the development of the next generation of project managers. These managers work with teams of scientists and engineers to find solutions to problems," said Dr. Kevin Grant, the study's principal investigator who is an assistant professor of technology management at UTSA's College of Business. He and co-investigator Dr.



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Air Force and Brooks City-Base workers consult about their simulated space flight findings during a recent mission to Mars as part of a NASA-funded study with UTSA.

Michael Baumann, a UTSA assistant psychology professor, have been partnering with the Challenger Center to develop a proof of concept for improving program manager performance.

The project was selected from among 54 proposals by NASA's Universities Space Research Association, a non-profit university consortium, whose Center for Program/Project Management Research has operated as a virtual institute since its inception in 2003. CPMR focuses on promoting university-based research that addresses internationally significant problems in program and project management, with specific emphasis on aeronautics and the space program.

UTSA has had an on-going relationship with the Challenger Center in terms of training for graduate students. Leveraging this resource, UTSA was one of ten universities in the country to receive an initial NASA grant. Research teams from the MIT, Georgetown University and the University

of California at Berkeley are among academic institutions competing for four NASA Phase II grants.

"In phase I, we focused on improving knowledge sharing in terms of team interaction," Dr. Baumann said. Since the Challenger and Columbia space shuttle accidents, Dr. Grant explained, NASA has shown an interest in developing a better risk management culture.

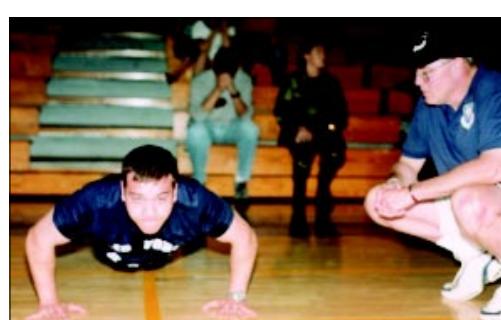
The UTSA investigators' proof of concept focused on team-related learning experiences and the creation of a research test bed featuring three components. These included establishing a web-based learning program that supported team-based planning where participants assumed specific roles in developing a program plan for a space mission. A group of UTSA graduate students were the first to test the proof of concept during a simulated Mars mission.

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Articles may be submitted by email to Kendahl.Johnson@brooks.af.mil or to Discovery@brooks.af.mil.

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COMMENTARY

The importance of a living will

By Capt. Rhea Lagano
311th Human Systems Wing/JA

The recent legal and legislative battles over the fate of Terry Schiavo force us to ask ourselves some tough questions. What would you want if you were her? Does your family know? Who would decide? What can you do to make your wishes known — and more importantly — enforced? Contact the Brooks Legal Office at 536-3301 to meet with a legal assistance attorney who can help answer these questions and draft the documents you need to reflect your choices on the removal or extension of life support.

One document called a living will is not part of your last will and testament at all. It is a separate document, also known as an advance medical directive or declaration. This document states that if you are diagnosed with a terminal, incurable condition, you are authorizing physicians to remove life support.

Living wills can also include other health concerns such as tube feeding, resuscitation and organ donation. A living will does not take effect until the patient is

medically determined to be in a permanent vegetative state or terminally ill and unable to communicate preferences. The conditions that trigger the living will and the extent of the medical care to be withdrawn vary significantly from state to state. Another useful document, called a medical power of attorney, may also authorize a person you designate as an agent to direct the course of your medical care, and this may include some termination of life support decisions as well.

The form can be used to make decisions about things like nursing homes, surgeries and artificial feedings. For decisions this important, you should discuss with your agent various contingencies that may arise and what he or she may do in each case. Also, a copy of these documents should be put in your medical records.

Your legal assistance attorney can answer your questions regarding these documents, the need to revise them when you move to a new jurisdiction and prepare those documents you chose to reflect your decisions concerning the withdrawal or extension of life support measures. Please see the next Base Bulletin for a sample living will and sample medical power of attorney.

Every day is Wingman Day

By Gen. Don Cook
Commander of Air Education and Training Command

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — In December, we took a down-day to combat accidental deaths and suicides in the Air Force. However, Wingman Day was never intended to be a one-time "event." Rather, it was a reminder to be good wingmen every day. The wingman concept extends to another issue we are confronting — reintegrating Airmen into "home station life."

Very shortly, the Air Staff will release policy to assist commanders in effectively reintegrating Airmen after they return from deployments. As you may know from speaking with redeploying troops, their stress is real. Consider the Airmen performing the highly dangerous mission of convoy security or serving on critical care air transport teams for the seriously wounded. These courageous people have personally experienced the horrors of war, and they deserve the fullest support when they return home.

So with the arrival of the Air Force policy, it will be up to all of us to turn this guidance into action. We need to take care of Airmen returning from the taxing challenges of a deployed environment. How can you help?

First, commanders, emphasize face-to-face contact

with your redeploying troops — and set the example.

Second, have your Airmen take advantage of base agencies ready to support them and assist those struggling with reintegration.

Third, I ask you Airmen who have felt the hardships of reintegration to use your experience to coach and counsel those who have recently redeployed.

Fourth, first sergeants and supervisors should follow up. Research shows troops typically begin to manifest problems three to six months after they redeploy. Monitor this period closely to prevent challenges from becoming emergencies.

Finally, everyone, don't forget about taking care of our families.

Reintegrating into family life after a deployment can be tough. I've been there. Often the only one who will know how an Airman and his or her family members are coping with reintegration is the Airman's co-worker or friend. Thus, every Airman must be a wingman. That is the culture of expeditionary-minded wingman!

And every day must be Wingman Day. We will lean heavily on this principle of airmanship as we answer our nation's call to duty. We will be tested in the fire of expeditionary warfare abroad and the pressure of resource constraints at home — all the more reason to integrate a wingman mindset into everything we do.

Survey to gauge physical condition of AF civilians

Great progress has been made with the Civilian Health Promotion Services initiative since the first of the year. Federal Occupational Health staff along with Air Force Materiel Command installation POCs have worked diligently to get the individual installation CHPS' offices up and running.

A key step in implementing this program is to "baseline" the current physical condition of the AFMC civilian work force. With this as our goal, the FOH CHPS staff, along with the AFMC Wellness integrated process team, has developed the CHPS Needs Assessment Survey. The survey will require approximately 10 minutes to complete. It is anonymous and voluntary. The

results will be compiled by FOH to provide a baseline assessment on the physical condition of AFMC Civilians.

The survey will be available April 1-15 at <http://fs8.formsite.com/FedOccHealth/form735593160/index.html>. Hard-copy surveys will also be available through your installation CHPS Office. The survey has been reviewed and approved by the Air Force Personnel Center.

A high participation rate will provide us the way ahead for this initiative—encourage your folks to take the time to complete this survey.

— Gen. Gregory Martin, Commander, AFMC



Congratulations to CAPT. Phil Silva

Winner of the Discovery sweet 16 challenge



AF programs at Brooks to play key support role for new technology center

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Air Force programs and organizations at Brooks City-Base are expected to play a key support role for the planned National Sustainment Technology Center to be located at KellyUSA.

The U.S. Navy, in partnership with the Defense Sustainment Consortium, created the NSTC to bridge the gap between research and application of new and emerging technologies. This first-of-its-kind facility will initially focus on aircraft weapon systems issues.

"The National Sustainment Technology Center will significantly enhance our national security by expanding the U.S. industrial and scientific base related to improving the operational readiness of an aging weapon system inventory," said U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-Texas) in an official statement.

The senator was instrumental in securing funding for the

NSTC through collaboration with her colleagues in Congress including U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) and U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla (R-Texas).

Resources at Brooks significantly contributed to congressional approval of the center that was officially announced March 22 by the San Antonio Technology Accelerator Initiative. "San Antonio is an excellent location for this (center) as we have many of the necessary components for success," Sen. Hutchison said.

She specifically referred to Brooks-based assets including the Air Force Outreach Program Office, Air Force Mentor-Protégé Program, UTSA's Materials Sciences and Engineering Laboratory, the Alamo Area Aerospace Academy and the Air Force Manufacturing Technical Assistance Production Program.

"The greater San Antonio area, with its commitment to the defense industry and its proximity to KellyUSA, possesses the infrastructure and the workforce

with critical skills to make the center succeed," said Bob Ernst, Chairman of the Joint Council on Aging Aircraft.

He praised the commitment by DSC members such as Lockheed Martin and Boeing whose work at KellyUSA is helping meet national defense objectives while creating synergy conducive to economic growth.

"Several large DSC members are already located there (KellyUSA), and a number of national small business programs are located nearby at Brooks City-Base that bring additional resources to the NSTC," he said. "In addition, the city of San Antonio has demonstrated a culture of partnership and collaboration, small business involvement and community support, all critical success factors for meeting NSTC objectives."

Grassroots support for the NSTC includes Bob Sanchez, former South San Antonio Chamber of Commerce chairman. Mr. Sanchez, who is Front-

line Systems, Inc. chairman, said the NSTC's role will involve applying new aerospace industry technologies that support America's Armed Forces. He explained that the center is designed to facilitate federal government certification of processes and specialized components developed by commercial suppliers.

Mr. Sanchez was among several community stakeholders who played key roles in helping secure NSTC for San Antonio through discussions between the Navy, DSC and congressional leaders.

The Navy plans to inaugurate the NSTC during its "Cost of Aging" Symposium on military aircraft scheduled for May 24-25 in San Antonio. The event will focus on identifying urgent aircraft weapon systems sustainment issues.

"The NSTC will build on the successes of the DSC to facilitate an integrated community of solution providers that addresses

Department of Defense needs through collaboration, as well as technology and information sharing. As the NSTC gains momentum providing effective solutions, it will attract additional industry, academia and government participants, and become a center of excellence for sustainment technologies, solutions and knowledge," Mr. Ernst said.

The center will also generate small business growth. Mr. Sanchez said the NSTC will focus on advancing economic development opportunities for small, minority, veteran and women-owned businesses.

"We are incorporating business processes that will ensure small businesses have opportunities to participate in the projects by providing access to and coordination through the SATAI Network's local resources," he said, referring to assets at Brooks.



Air Force honors Brooks writer for centennial flight series

By Kendahl Johnson
Discovery editor

A writer for the Discovery Newspaper recently earned first-place honors in the Air Force media contest, under the "best series" category.

Journalist Rudy Purificato, who also serves as director for the Brooks Multimedia Services Center and as a science and technology communications specialist, placed first in the media contest, marking the first time ever that a Brooks writer earned the top prize in the series category.

"I am appreciative of being honored by my colleagues," Mr. Purificato said. "I have been overwhelmed with phone calls and emails congratulating me for the honor."

The media contest recognized Mr. Purificato's work on a 10-article centennial flight series. The series profiled 10 Air Force aviation legends that contributed to aerospace medicine and aviation and had some connections with Brooks.

"I had the idea for the series in 1995, so it was a long process," said Mr. Purificato, noting that Tech. Sgt. Cody Vance, former chief of graphics at Brooks, created the artist renderings of the legends well before the articles were actually written.

In February, Mr. Purificato won first place at the Air Force Materiel Command level. His 10-part series was then entered into the Air Force-level media contest. Next, Mr. Purificato's series will compete at the Department of Defense competition. Winners will be announced mid-May.

Mr. Purificato graduated from Texas Christian University with a dual degree in history and journalism. He spent 25 years as a U.S. Army communications and public affairs officer, including a tour in Saudi Arabia during the Persian Gulf War working with ABC News. He has worked at Brooks since 1995.

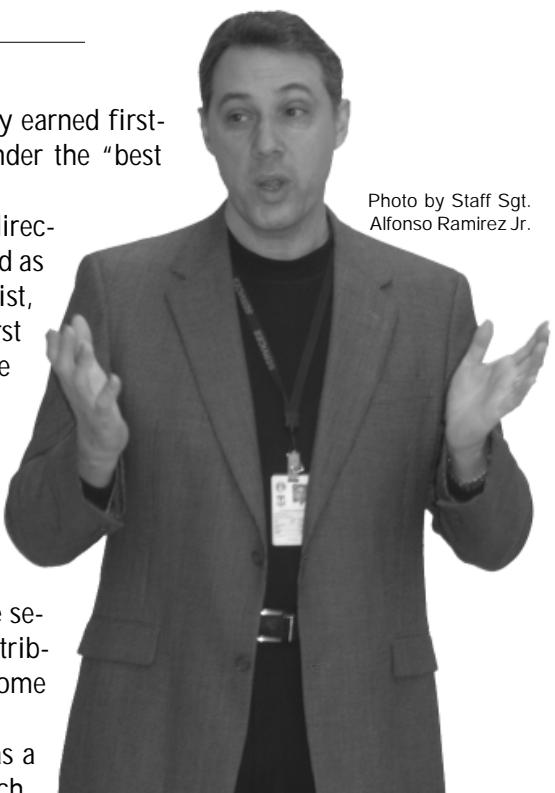


Photo by Staff Sgt.
Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

Rudy Purificato won first-place for his 10-part series profiling legends in Air Force aerospace medicine and aviation safety.



Brooks celebrates progress at Women's History Month event

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Significant contributions made by women to America's history and economic prosperity and the progress they have experienced in securing equal rights and job opportunities mirrored the theme of the Brooks Women's History Month celebration that ended in March.

The base's commemoration of this national observance concluded March 28 with a closing ceremony at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine that featured keynote speaker Col. Regina Aune, an Air Force nurse who is the 59th Medical Operations Group commander at Lackland Air Force Base.

Her retrospective, titled "Reflections," chronicled her personal observations of military women's role in supporting national defense objectives that have been the bedrock of Armed Forces readiness during the past 30 years.

"Women have influenced American history and development since the very beginning (of

the Republic)," said Col. Aune, referring to a pantheon of heroines that range from Revolutionary War combatant Mary Hays McCauly, known as "Molly Pitcher," to Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, who in 1849 became the first American woman to earn a medical degree.

Col. Aune focused on women's progress in America's Armed Forces. "When I started my Air Force career in 1973, only two percent of the military were female. And 99 percent of women in the military were nurses. They could not attend service academies and were not allowed to fly (aircraft)," she said.

Since then, Col. Aune noted, women have made significant strides within the Department of Defense. She explained that during this period nurses became the first predominantly female career field in the Air Force to cross train by attending pilot training. "We've made a lot of strides in terms of what we're allowed to do in the military," Col. Aune observed.

She credited the role of senior leaders for helping facilitate change in the military regarding more opportunities for women. That role involved mentorship. She said that today's senior women leaders in the Air Force must recognize and act upon their collective responsibility to mentor younger female officers and enlisted personnel so that the current generation of junior leaders will be prepared to meet future challenges.

Col. Aune's message reflected what the American Women's Movement has espoused through their slogan "you've come a long way, baby."



COL. REGINA AUNE



Camp Challenger to premiere spatial illusions in space

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Spatially disorienting illusions in space will be part of a new attraction for a series of Camp Challenger space camps that the Brooks Aerospace Foundation will conduct this summer.

A specially designed Barany chair used during astronaut training will become a permanent part of Camp Challenger activities, now in its fourth year. This year's space camps are scheduled for June 20-24, July 11-15 and July 25-29.

"It's the first time we're using a Barany chair at Camp Challenger. We're among ten Challenger centers to get a Barany chair," said Shelia Klein, Brooks Heritage Foundation executive director.

The spinning chairs were created especially for Challenger Learning Centers to demonstrate to students some of the problems astronauts encounter in space. The devices, advanced models of the originals that were first used in early pilot training, rely on centrifugal force to affect human equilibrium.

The Barany chair is scheduled to be installed at the Challenger Center here on June 8. Retired



Courtesy photo

A past Camp Challenger participant conducts a hydroponics experiment at the Challenger Learning Center, site of this summer's series of space camps.

astronaut John Blaha, who historically visits space camps, tentatively plans to share his stories about experiencing spatial disorientation in space with Camp Challenger participants, Mrs. Klein said.

The new attraction is but one of many activities planned for this year's space camps. "Last year, students plotted the solar system along Sidney Brooks Drive using a (wooden) stake for the sun and spheres representing the planets. Their solar system stretched from the fire station to the youth center," Mrs. Klein recalls.

The camps' highlight for fifth, sixth and seventh graders is the Voyage to Mars mission. All space camp activities, including the construction of a space station using PVC pipe, are designed to prepare space campers for a simulated mission to the Red Planet. Space camps' Mars mission scenario premiered last year.

Space camp sessions are limited to 24 students. Week-long activities begin each day at 8:30 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m.

Call 531-9767 for registration information. Registration deadlines for the three sessions are June 10, July 1 and July 15.

Airman gets unique experience

From page 1

Airman Delgado supports the deployed mission by assuring the maintainers at this forward deployed base have access to network accounts and troubleshoots her unit's computer problems. She also updates the unit's webpage, ensuring members have updated information and availability of real time data.

As a member of the commander's support staff, she's also responsible for the flightline drivers program, picking-up and delivering the mail

and scheduling maintainers for their rotation home.

This is her first deployment and she said she believes that because it is her first, it is a unique experience. She said working for a aircraft maintenance unit gives her a unique opportunity to see people working on maintenance up close and in action, and all the behind-the-scenes work that goes on with keeping aircraft flying.

"Since my dad was an Air Force maintainer, it's exciting to witness the same environment that he worked in," she said.

Civilians must access pay statements online

By 1st Lt. Laura Chavez

311th Human Systems Wing

Air Force civilians must now use myPay to print leave and earnings statements because the Defense Accounting and Finance Service will no longer mail them, officials said.

"Beginning with the first pay period in April, hardcopies of civilian Leave and Earnings Statements will no longer be mailed. Instead, all Brooks City-Base civilian employees will begin receiving electronic SmartDoc reminder notifications," said George Gilligan, financial services officer.

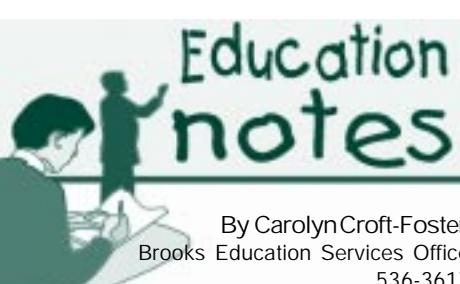
It is necessary for civilians to first have a myPay personal identification number activated. To access myPay, new users must have an official email address to sign up for a PIN number at

www.dod.mil/dfas/mypay. After logging in, customers may use the myPay system to view, print and save payroll documents online.

Advantages of using myPay include access to the LES two days before payday, access to the last 26 pay statements, the ability to change direct deposit account information, print W-2s, change W-4 tax withholdings and purchase U.S. savings bonds.

Another benefit is the ability to access myPay while at work, home or on temporary duty. Transactions can occur any time from any location, as long as users have access to the internet.

"This is a user-friendly process, and I believe that employees will like it once they use it," Mr. Gilligan said. "From now on, LES will be delivered to your computer, and will be there whenever you are ready to view it."



By Carolyn Croft-Foster
Brooks Education Services Office
536-3617

Individuals may access AFVEC directly through the web site at <https://afvec.langley.af.mil> or through a link on the Air Force portal. Members will be required to logon to "My AFVEC" by entering their email address and password. New users will be required to create an account. Once in "My AFVEC," members should click "Request TA" to begin the process of requesting tuition assistance.

Members will be required to know and enter basic course registration information in the on-line TA request. They must know, among other things, the school's exact term start and end dates, course code, course title and cost per semester or quarter hour. Once the member has entered and reviewed the TA request information, the request will be forwarded electronically to the education center for final review and approval. The member will be notified via email and through AFVEC when the request is approved.

The National Graduate School of Quality Management

The National Graduate School is now accepting applications for a master's program scheduled to begin in March. Classes will be held one night a week from 6 to 10 p.m. at Fort Sam Houston. Students will earn a degree in quality systems management.

Tuition assistance available

Air Force members at Brooks City-Base preparing to register for college courses and request Air Force tuition assistance are encouraged to apply on-line using the Air Force Virtual Education Center. Air Force members will no longer need to access the Brooks home page to apply for tuition assistance, but can accomplish this request directly through AFVEC.

AFVEC is the Air Force's premier site for providing information about educational information and benefits. The purpose of this site is to provide students one-stop-shopping for all higher education needs. In addition to the on-line TA request, AFVEC offers a wide array of on-line services to empower the student to actively participate in all aspects of their education. These services are offered to encourage progress of each educational endeavor the student chooses; whether it is requesting tuition assistance, working towards their Community College of the Air Force degree or applying for commissioning.



ACTION LINE

536-2222



BRIG. GEN. TOM TRAVIS
311th Human Systems
Wing commander

The COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the

COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222.

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:

311th Security Forces Squadron.....	536-2851	Military Personnel.....	536-1845
SFS after duty hours.....	536-2851	Civilian Personnel.....	536-3353
311th Civil Engineer Squadron.....	536-3861	Military Pay.....	536-5778
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571	Civilian Pay.....	536-8370
311th Mission Support Group – Logistics Division.....	536-3541	Inspector General (FWA).....	536-2358
Safety.....	536-2111	Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
Housing Maintenance.....	533-5900	EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
Housing Office.....	533-5905	BXMarket.....	533-9079
311th Services Division.....	536-2545	Brooks Development Office.....	536-3655
311th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715	Brooks City-Base Marketing and Development Office.....	536-5366

BHF scholarship deadline nears

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Brooks student aides and graduating high school seniors have until May 1 to apply for scholarship awards being offered through the Brooks Heritage Foundation Scholarship program.

Now in its 12th year, the P.D. Straw Scholarship program annually awards \$1,000 to a graduating high school senior. It was established in 1993 in honor of BHF founding member Maj. Gen. P.D. Straw who was killed in an aircraft accident in 1994.

Applicants for this award must write an essay specifying their academic and career goals and provide a summary of past achievements in academics and other school and civic activities. Students who compete for this scholarship must enter college no later than the spring semester 2006 and major in one of the following career fields: engineering, science, math, program management or health care.

Students competing for this award must be nominated by either a Brooks community or Brooks Heritage Foundation member. Besides the essay, students must include in their application packet a list of universities and or colleges where they have applied or have been accepted;

an official high school transcript and a list of courses currently enrolled or plan to take before graduation; S.A.T. or A.C.T. scores; and a maximum of three letters or recommendation.

The 311th Human Systems Wing Student Educational Employment Program Scholarship program was established in 1994 to provide two \$250 scholarships to Brooks student aides.

Applicants must either be enrolled and attending college in the San Antonio area or be a high school senior whose graduation does not occur later than the fall semester 2005 and plans to enter college no later than the spring semester 2005. They must be nominated by a Brooks community or BHF member.

Award nomination requirements include writing an essay describing their career and educational goals and how enrollment in the Brooks Student Educational Employment Program has helped them achieve these goals. Application packets must also include the name of the university or college where they are enrolled or name of high school they currently attend; and a maximum of three letters of recommendation.

Applications are available at the Brooks Heritage Foundation headquarters located in the Aeromedical Evacuation Museum adjacent to Hangar 9. For more information call 531-9767.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

SPONSOR TRAINING

April 12 — 10 - 11 a.m., Bldg. 537

In accordance with AFI 36-3011, sponsor training is mandatory of all first-time sponsors and those who have not sponsored within the past year. However, others are more than welcome to attend. Learn about tools and resources available for sponsors.

SEPARATION AND RETIREMENT

April 13 — 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Bldg. 537

This is a mandatory class for active military personnel who are retiring or separating within 120 days. Topics covered are Pre-Separation, Veterans Benefits, Survivors Benefit Plans, TRICARE, and Financial Planning for Transition. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

ESTATE PLANNING

April 13 — 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Bldg. 537

Are you married? Do you have children? Do you own a home or other valuable assets? If your answer is yes to any of these questions, you probably need an estate plan. Attend class and you will find out about wills, trusts, executors and life insurance.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION CEREMONY AND PICNIC

April 20 — 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Hangar 9

In celebration of Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 18-22, Brooks City-Base will honor its volunteers who gave their time and efforts to on and off-base agencies. This will be a time to recognize all volunteers with Certificates of Appreciation and to present the Air Force Volunteer Excellence Awards for lifelong volunteer achievements. All attendees can enjoy a free picnic lunch of hotdogs, chips and bottled water.

SMOOTH MOVE

April 26 — 12:30 - 3:15 p.m., Bldg. 537

PCSing? Hear briefings from TMO, Legal, Clinic, Finance, Housing, and the Family Support Center and ask YOUR questions! Open to all active duty members, DoD civilians and spouses. Overseas move has its own set of challenges and opportunities. Learn more about your OCONUS PCS by staying after for the PCS Overseas class.

Call 536-2444 to register



April marks national Child Abuse Prevention Month

By Elizabeth Thompson
59th Medical Squadron

Nearly 200,000 Texas children are reported as abused or neglected every year, according to Child Protective Services, a division of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month in Texas and in the nation. To promote awareness, the Family Advocacy Office will be hosting brown bag seminars at the Chapel Annex every Thursday in April from noon to 1 p.m. Seminars are open to everyone in the Brooks City-Base community.

Topics presented include:

— April 14 - "Home Alone in San Antonio: Guidelines Every Parent Should Know"

— April 21 - "Renewing the Joy of Parenthood: Five Simple

Steps Toward Peace, Respect and Fun at Home"

— April 28 - "Protecting Your Child from Internet Dangers/Predators"

There will also be a car seat safety inspection April 28 from 1:30 to 3:30 in the Child Development Center parking lot. Inspections will be conducted by certified child passenger safety technicians and will be by appointment only. Call the Family Advocacy Office to make an appointment.

"It's a time to focus on ways not only to protect children but also to prevent abuse and injury from ever occurring," said Capt Julie Storey, a family advocacy officer. "This is our opportunity to make a difference in young lives."

Neglect is the most frequent form of child abuse, according to

the state agency charged with protecting children.

"Yes, children die simply because they're put in situations where they are not supervised," said Capt Julie Storey, Family Advocacy Officer. "But parents are not alone."

The website www.itsuptoyou.org contains a wealth of information on how to prevent child abuse, where to go to get help with parenting skills and what to do if you suspect a child is in danger. Additionally, family advocacy staff members are also available to provide the Brooks City-Base community with this information.

Contact the Brooks Family Advocacy Office at 536-5301 for more information about child abuse prevention and activities scheduled during the month of April.

Job seekers can upgrade skills at BEP workshop

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Job seekers looking to improve their chances of securing future employment will be given a helping hand April 14 when the Brooks City-Base Black Employment Program sponsors "Understanding the Basic Employment Referral Process" workshop. It will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Bldg. 180's auditorium.

Free to all Brooks personnel, the workshop will feature presentations ranging from resume writing to job interviewing techniques.

"Participants will learn negotiating skills and how to sell themselves," said Lawanda Roper, a Brooks Family Support Center work life consultant who helped plan the training. She said attendees at past workshops had misconceptions about how they would be viewed in the job market.

"Their expectations are a lot greater, in terms of pay and ben-

efits, than what the real world has to offer," she said.

According to Juanita Jasper, Brooks Black Employment Program manager, it is only the third time in recent years that BEP has sponsored training sessions for job seekers.

The workshop will feature Andy Longo with the Fort Sam Houston Personnel Advisory Center, who will discuss the Army Resume System; Cathy Nickelberry with the Brooks Civilian Personnel office, whose presentation includes a basic overview of the promotion and job referral process; and a round table discussion on interviewing techniques jointly presented by Renee Wesley-Case with the Air Force Outreach Program Office, Lorraine Massie with the Acquisition Center of Excellence and Sathedia Bush with Operational Contracting.

For more workshop information or to register call Ms. Roper at 536-2444 or Mary Urey at 536-4348.

HSI strengthens weapon systems development

By William Schlegel
311th Human Systems Wing/PEC

The way the Air Force goes to war now is not the same as it was before Gulf War I. Today, the Air Force deals with more complex weapon systems, shifting combat environments, and an ever-increasing reliance on computers and automation.

These real-world challenges stress the human's ability to process information and make decisions, and changes what operators typically do. In short, the human is becoming the limiting factor in weapon system performance.

So what is the Air Force doing about it? Senior Air Force leaders recognize the need to strengthen a process in weapon system development called human systems integration (HSI).

The Air Force Scientific Advisory Board reported that "the institution of a formal Human Systems Integration program based upon operator usability requirements is necessary and can positively impact critical operational concerns such as mishap reduction, mission management, and command and control decision support."

HSI strives to make weapon systems more effective, affordable and safe by instilling the idea that the human, in addition to hardware and software, is part of the total system. Therefore, as systems are designed and manufactured, they make the most of human ability and reduce factors that weaken performance.

For example, what if an automobile had the latest computers and most fuel efficient engine, but did not have windshield wipers or headlights? How would a human drive effectively and safely in the rain or at night? System developers must design systems with the human in mind and not just the technology. And the 311th Human Sys-

tems Wing is actively taking on the challenge to do just that.

Charged with HSI for Air Force Materiel Command, the new Performance Enhancement Directorate is comprised of three divisions: HSI Concept of Operations Division, Performance Enhancement Research Division, and Warfighter Operations Division.

The new Directorate looks at the levels of HSI as early as possible in weapon system acquisition programs and makes recommendations for improvement. The earlier the human is integrated into system development, the better the design and mission effectiveness, and the lower the life cycle costs and mishap rates will be.

An example of how the 311 HSW/PE facilitates good HSI practices is apparent in the Air Force's most successful Unmanned Aviation Vehicle program to date, the MQ-1 Predator.

The new directorate conducted a tri-service study of UAV mishaps. Realizing a need to reduce UAV mishaps, PE began assessing aspects of the UAV program to find ways to integrate human considerations. PE made recommendations for improvement in the areas of: manpower, personnel, training, human factors engineering, environment, safety, occupational health, habitability and personnel survivability.

Additionally, working with the Air Force Research Lab and others, PE is actively addressing UAV-specific issues such as selecting the right operators, designing the right training, and figuring out the right medical standards.

The overall goal is in concert with the 311th HSW commander's intent: "Every Airman a Force Multiplier."

More information will follow as Air Force leaders continue shaping and integrating the Air Force's HSI program.

NASA study may improve future space problems

from page 1

"The whole notion is that you can not develop a risk management plan unless various members of the team share their knowledge," Dr. Grant said. He equated the project's team dynamics exercise to completing a puzzle. Team members, experts on specific information known only to them, work to piece together the whole picture in resolving a problem.

The investigators said post-phase I work included another simulated mission to Mars using Brooks military and civilian personnel.

"We're going to continue this (project) whether or nor we receive a (Phase II) NASA grant," Dr. Grant said. Whatever the outcome, the UTSA Investigators believe their contributions to improving program manager performance will eventually benefit the Air Force and scientific community.



Human Effectiveness Directorate Awards



Capt. Aaron Condel
Leadership Award



Stefanie Miller
Scientific/Technical
Management Award

Given to the individual who exhibits the most outstanding qualities of leadership in the accomplishment of the AFRL/HE mission.



SPC Nancy Meadows
Individual Mission
Support Award

Recognizes the person who has most effectively managed a notable and significant technology project during the past year.



Major Richard Daigle
Mentor of the Year

Recognizes the most outstanding contribution to the support of AFRL/HE enabling the accomplishment of the mission.



Dr. Garrett Polhamus
Director's Award

Presented to an individual(s) and/or team for outstanding performance at the sole discretion of the Director.



Capt. Linda Alvarado
Director's Award

Presented to an individual(s) and/or team for outstanding performance at the sole discretion of the Director.

Congratulations to all
AFRL//HED Winners



FEATURE



HARRELL

Q&A

FULL NAME/RANK:
Master Sgt. Deborah Harrell

DUTY TITLE,
ORGANIZATION:
Superintendent,
Military Equal Opportunity

IN SIMPLE TERMS,
WHAT DO YOU DO?:
I ensure that Brooks City-Base is
free of unlawful discrimination and
sexual harassment through education,
assessment, and complaint
processing

BIRTHDAY:
August 18, 1959

HOMETOWN:
Maringouin, La.

FAMILY STATUS:
Married to husband Curtis, two
children -- Curtis Jr. and Shirlyn

PERSONAL MOTTO:
"With God all things are possible"

INSPIRATIONS:
Individuals who have and continue
to impact my life

HOBBIES:
Cooking and reading

PET PEEVE:
Procrastination...
Even I do it and I hate it!!

I JOINED THE MILITARY BE-
CAUSE:
I needed a job. I stayed because I
enjoyed it.

ULTIMATE GOAL:
Live life to its fullest!!

MY GREATEST
ACCOMPLISHMENT:
For me it's not the accomplish-
ment, it's having a loving and
healthy family to share it with

MY MOST PRIZED
POSSESSION:
A book of my mother's favorite
recipes that I'd like to publish
some day

Beginning a new phase of life

Brooks
Personality
PROFILE



By Kendahl Johnson
Discovery editor

The old adage is that all good things must come to an end. In a few months, the adage will seem prophetic, as the Air Force, Brooks City-Base and the Military Equal Opportunity office here will lose a valued and respected employee.

In a few short months, the military will say goodbye to Master Sgt. Deborah Harrell, who is retiring after 20 years in the Air Force. Although change is inevitable, it doesn't make it easy and many whose lives have been affected by the sergeant will be sad to see her go.

"It's time for me to start the second phase of my life," Sgt. Harrell said, who will retire in June to spend more time with her family. "There have been times when I haven't been able to spend as much time with my husband and children as I would have liked. Because of my commitment to the military, I have had to sacrifice doing some of the things I would like to do with my children. Now I am at the point where I can make this transition. My children are still at the age where I can still do some of those things."

Sergeant Harrell grew up in Maringouin, a small town in southwestern Louisiana. The oldest of seven children, she learned many things that would eventually prepare her for a life in the military – attributes like respect, discipline and a work ethic.

"The discipline in the military was nothing compared to the discipline I grew up with in terms of my family life," she said. "We were taught to respect others and to listen. I learned the value of hard work – I had my first job when I was only 13 years old. I learned all of those things as I was growing up and it helped mold me into the person I am now."

Sergeant Harrell also said that being the oldest child contributed to her desire to take on more responsibility and be a leader, which pushed her towards a

career in the military. But it was her patience that would be tested first, as the Air Force made her wait 10 months after signing on before she could enter.

"I was ready to go and 10 months is a long time to wait," she said. "I told my recruiter that I could meet a man, fall in love, get married and have a kid all within 10 months and never join the Air Force. But I still had to wait."

Her first duty station was here in San Antonio. While still in basic training she interviewed for a position at Lackland Air Force Base, but debated taking the job. "I really wasn't sure I wanted it because when you are in basic training that's all you know of Lackland," she said.

As it turns out, it was one of the best decisions she made, as her proximity to Wilford Hall Medical Center would make a lasting impact on her family's life.

Sergeant Harrell struggled with a problem pregnancy and after just 30 weeks, she gave birth to her son, Curtis Jr. He weighed just 12 ounces when he was born and was the smallest baby ever born at Wilford Hall.

"I am blessed that I was at Lackland," she said. "Wilford Hall had the best neonatal facility not only in the Air Force but probably in the country. I couldn't have asked for better care."

Because of his unique struggles, no one knew what to expect as he grew older, but the Harrells remained optimistic. Soon after a three-month stay in the hospital, Curtis Jr. became involved with an early intervention program called CAMP – Children Achieving Maximum Potential. "He was getting the care he needed to ensure his life was as normal as possible. My son received everything he needed to survive and thrive, and his journey has been remarkable."

Today, Curtis Jr. is a normal 12-year-old boy who likes video games and has few health problems. He and his six-year-old sister Shirlyn are "inseparable." It is the desire to spend more time with these two children that is causing Sergeant Harrell to retire from a job she says has been the best in her career.

After spending the first 11 years of her career at Lackland, climbing the ranks to technical sergeant, she got orders to move the Defense Language Institute in Monterrey, Calif. It was there that Sergeant Harrell decided to retrain. Initially, she wanted to do paralegal work, but instead was approved to retrain for a career in MEO. "I love this job. I love working with people," she said.

She said much of the job fulfillment comes from the ability to see the fruits of her labors. After talking with and helping people, she said she can "physically see that that person has changed and the change is for the better. It makes it all worth it."

"We'd all like to work and live in an environment where we feel good about ourselves and we feel good about the folks around us and the situation that we're in. This job helps promote that," Sergeant Harrell said. "The things we do really matter to people and it affects attitudes and attitudes affect behavior."

Brooks will not only miss Sergeant Harrell's upbeat personality and sense of humor, but it will also miss her great cooking. She recently won first-place in the Project CHEER Italian cook-off with a converted Creole dish she calls Crawfish Italiano.

But all good things must come to an end and although she will be missed by the base community, her family will reap the rewards of retirement. "I enjoy the military, but I need to do something else. It's my family's time now."

The things we do really matter to people and it affects attitudes and attitudes affect behavior.

Master Sgt. Deborah Harrell
Military Equal Opportunity



AFCEE 'combatant' paints the town in living color

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

It's a popular outdoor sport whose color commentators are part of the game. In some ways, paintball resembles a living abstraction of what abstract artist Jackson Pollack might have imagined if he had lived long enough to become a fan.

To 1st Lt. Trey Doby and other Brooks paintball enthusiasts, the sport that allows them "to slime" their adversaries with Ghostbuster-like proficiency equates to "painting the town red."

Oddly, red is the only color missing from paintballers' arsenal of rainbow ammunition. "Red is not used because it resembles blood," explains the lieutenant who is a program manager for the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence.

As a member of one of the more than 30,000 paintball teams worldwide, Lieutenant Doby is truly a devoted fan of this war game-inspired sport. "I was watching paintball competition on ESPN and got hooked," said the 25-year-old South Carolina native.

Part of a tournament-winning team, Lieutenant Doby enjoys the challenges posed by a sport where marble-sized plastic spheres, containing a mixture of vegetable oil, food coloring and water, are propelled from high-velocity guns amidst a labyrinth of obstacles.

The object of the game is simple. Tournament teams, consisting of three people, amass points by capturing a flag in the middle of a field or eliminate opponents by splattering them with a hail of paintballs.



1st Lt. Trey Doby pauses momentarily at "the snake" within a medieval castle complex. Using this and other barriers effectively is crucial to success during paintball competition.

Paintball originated in the U.S. about 15 years ago. Today, international tournaments are held annually. "The world cup of paintball is held at the Walt Disney World sports complex in Orlando, Florida," says Mike Ahr, owner of Paintball Knights, one of four San Antonio area venues. Ahr quit his Mitsubishi job to run the paintball operation fulltime on ten acres of his parent's St. Hedwig ranch.

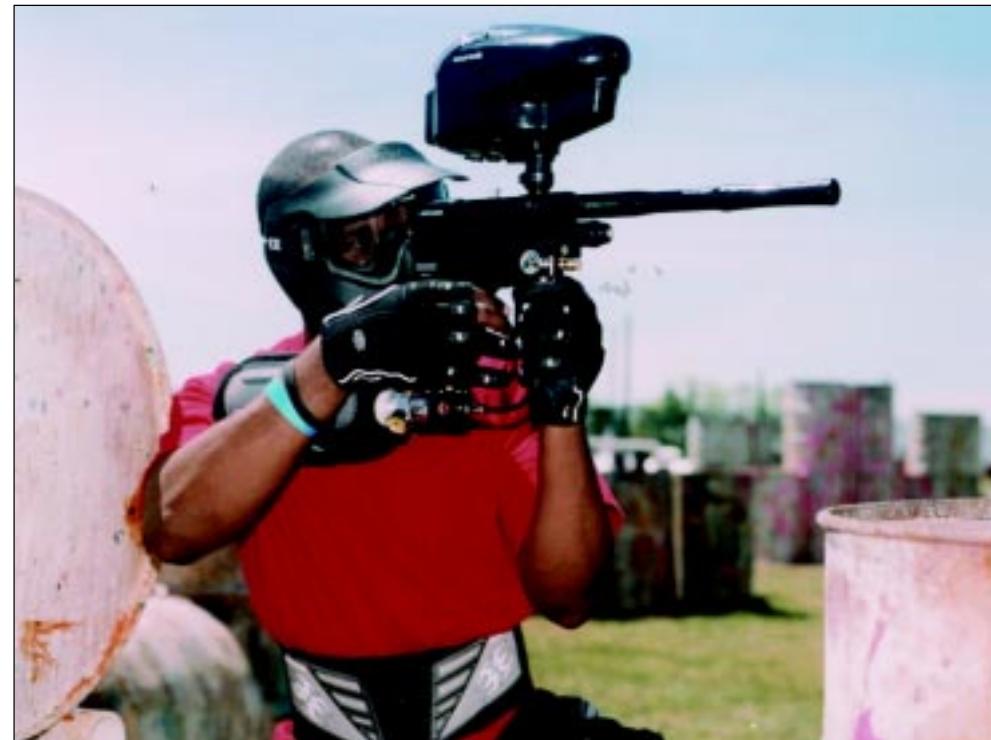
Typically, venues such as Paintball Knights where Lieutenant Doby plays, features themed obstacle courses. They range from medieval castle complexes to Dr. Seuss-like creations featuring 55-gallon drums, air-filled pillars and plastic shipping pallets.

Lieutenant Doby began playing paintball recreationally in November. He quickly adapted to the challenge of using his agility, cunning and ability to maneuver through and around barriers.

He also learned that being fast on your feet doesn't necessarily help a player survive a game where paintballs travel at speeds of up to 290 feet per second.

"It's not a timed sport. A game can last a few seconds or several minutes," he says. Opponents range in age from 10 to 60 plus years. Inexperienced players compete as recreational participants. Veterans participate in tournaments.

Games are played day and night. It involves close combat. There are risks, such as welt-producing paintballs that sting and stun victims. "I've been shot in every place on my body. The first time I got hit in the back, tears came to my eyes. It really hurts if you're hit on your extremities," the lieutenant said.



Photos by Rudy Purificato

Zeroing in on an opponent, 1st Lt. Trey Doby can fire a full load of paintballs from his high velocity gun in seconds.

There's strategy, tactics and planning involved. The first thing I learned was to not stay behind a bunker too long because you'll be pinned down.

1st Lt. Trey Doby
Paintball enthusiast, AFCEE

Once he was accidentally shot in the back of the head by a teammate, "I ran into his line of fire. It stunned me and broke the skin," he said. In paintball, you're eliminated if hit by friend or foe.

Following infantry principles, the key to winning is fire, maneuver and communication. "There's strategy, tactics and planning involved," Lieutenant Doby noted. He learned his paintball lessons quickly.

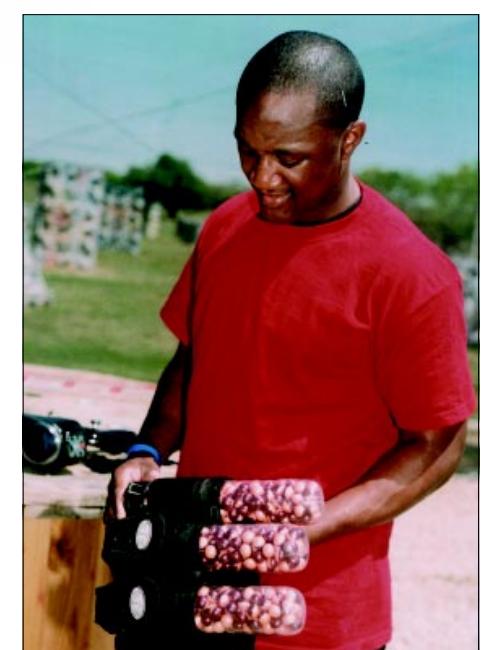
"The first thing I learned was to not stay behind a bunker too long because you'll be pinned down. You want to move to the best positions, in the shooting lanes that are either in the middle or sides of the field, depending on the position of the opposing team."

The playing field is roughly half the size of a football field. Every field contains a long horizontal barrier called "the snake." Manipulating this barrier, by either crawling through or hiding behind it, is an important part of the game.

Another essential part of this sport is being properly equipped. Novice recreational participants can begin play with a minimum \$200 investment. Lieutenant Doby has since spent thousands of dollars on equipment for tournament play. It includes a top-of-the-line paintball gun powered by compressed air, ammo belts for paintball pods that each hold up to 150 projectiles, a plastic

face mask and goggles, padded gloves, elbow and knee pads and a neck guard. Optional equipment includes throat mikes for radio communications.

"It's a game of integrity. The referees don't see everything. Players who are hit take themselves out of the game," he said. Honesty and sportsmanship usually prevail. More importantly, players enjoy a special bond. "It's also a lot of fun," says the lieutenant, who prefers not to view the sport through 'rose-colored glasses.'



Lieutenant Doby assembles his paintball ammo belt featuring three pods that can each hold up to 150 projectiles.



Last-second shot dooms Brooks at SWMBL tourney

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Last second shots in basketball are common and usually have an adverse but temporary effect on the loser. While the Brooks men's varsity team was disappointed by Fort Sill's buzzer-beating bucket during their preliminary round contest at the Southwest Military Basketball League championship tournament, they never felt defeated.

They also never came as close to winning a game during the March 23-27 event after dropping a heartbreaker to the Cannoneers from Oklahoma 67-66.

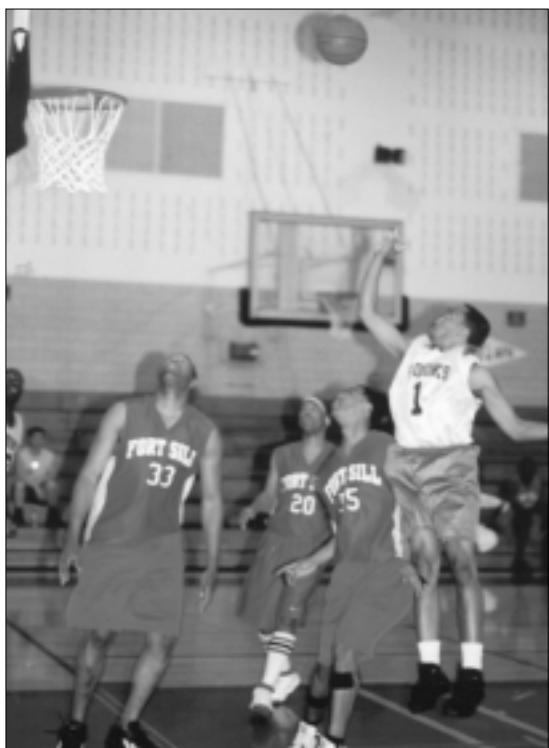


Photo by Rudy Purificato

Brooks forward Anthony Tillman fires a shot against Fort Sill during the first round of the Southwest Military Basketball League tourney.

AFAF bulks up on Brooks pushup-a-thon

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The Air Force Assistance Fund bulked up a bit thanks to a fund-raising pushup-a-thon March 24, won by a Human Systems Group lieutenant who was pumped up about helping Air Force families in need.

The event raised \$1,596 for AFAF, greatly contributing to the base's 2005 goal of \$25,392. "It's the first time we've held a pushup-a-thon to raise money for AFAF," said Capt. Maureen Farrell, the 311th Human Systems Wing AFAF representative from the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine.

2nd Lt. Scott Horsley won the pushup-a-thon by completing 107 pushups in the regulation two minutes. He also continued doing the anaerobic exercise for eight more minutes that brought his total to 243.

"I had 65 pledges. I've calculated that I raised between \$270 and \$280," said Lieutenant Horsley, a 24-year-old native of Walterboro, S.C. who graduated from The Citadel in 2003. While physical conditioning was a grueling experience for him at The Citadel, he doesn't recall ever having done as many pushups in a 10-minute period as he accomplished on the Brooks Fitness Center gym floor.

Other pushup-a-thon participants included Lieutenants Jeffrey Lynch and Casey Waltershied from HSG and 311th HSW, respectively; Airmen Christian Favorite and Dan Decourey from the 68th Information Opera-

The Randolph AFB Ramblers successfully defended their SWMBL crown by defeating the Lackland AFB Warhawks 72-65 in the championship game. Randolph and Brooks co-hosted the tournament.

"We were up during the last minutes of the game, but couldn't close it out," said Brooks star center Slim Bailey, referring to the first game against Fort Sill. In fact, Brooks overcame a 26-21 halftime deficit late in the third quarter and was leading 66-65 with 30.5 seconds left in regulation. However, they wilted under pressure to defeat a team that appeared beatable. Nevertheless, fate seemed to intervene when Fort Sill guard Eric Ross, who hadn't scored in the second half, fired a desperation shot that went in with one second left.

The next day, Brooks fell to Lackland 67-59. "We had them beat, but they came back in the second half. They went on a run. We never recovered," recalls Bailey. Unlike Fort Sill, a team that Brooks had never faced before, Lackland was a familiar foe that they had defeated during the regular season. "It's all about execution. We didn't execute," confessed Bailey, who pulled a hamstring during that contest. He was forced into a cheerleader role from the bench during the Brooks-Fort Sill rematch.

Fort Sill eliminated Brooks from the tournament in their rematch with a 60-45 victory. "Rebounding and turnovers, that was the difference in the game," says Bailey, adding, "We all wanted to win. We know we can beat any team on any given night, but we didn't get the job done."

For head coach Damion Byrd and assistant coach Ric Peterson, the team's tournament performance was a bitter outcome for an otherwise successful season in which they laid the foundation for a winning program. Unfortunately, their work

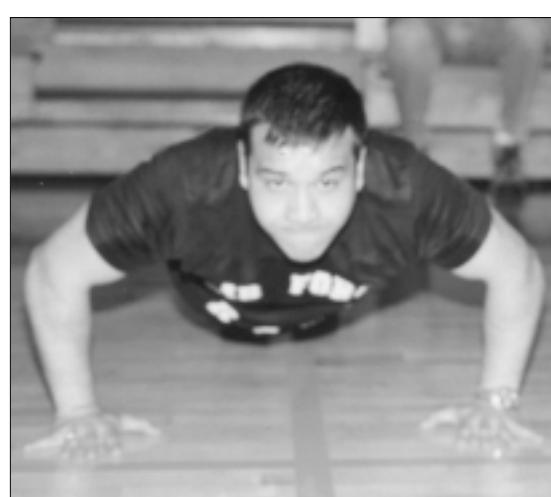


Photo by Rudy Purificato

2nd Lt. Scott Horsley from the Human Systems Group was the winner of the AFAF pushup-a-thon.

tions Squadron; Jeff Rabin and Senior Master Sgt. Eric Harmon from USAFSAM; 311th HSW executive director Eric Stephens; Tech. Sgt. Adam McComb from the Air Force Institute for Operational Health; and Capt. Matt Wyatt from Services. Collectively, they amassed a total of 1,040 pushups.

The money raised from this and other events here will help AFAF support the Air Force Aid Society, Air Force Enlisted and Officers' Villages and the General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation. Last year, the 311th HSW earned a \$2,500 'rebate' bonus for exceeding its goal and achieving over 50 percent participation. The AFAF deadline for contributions is April 15.

Brooks youth hoop teams win postseason 'triple crown'

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The Brooks Youth Sports basketball program has achieved a hardcourt milestone that the University of Connecticut's national champion men's and women's hoop teams would be hard pressed to eclipse. For the first time in Brooks sports history three youth basketball teams have simultaneously won post-season championships.

Brooks hoop teams turned March Madness into a month-long celebration by capturing the triple crown of military youth basketball in San Antonio. "It's the best performance we have ever had," said Larry Flores, Brooks Youth Sports director.

The Brooks Eagles boys team #3 won the Fort Sam Houston 11-12 year-old Boys Basketball Tournament on March 4 by defeating Fort Sam Houston team #4. Seeded first with an 11-0 regular season record under coach Paul Flores, the Brooks squad completed a perfect undefeated season by winning its three post-season games.

"The tournament featured 12 teams from Randolph, Fort Sam and Brooks. Our three teams placed first, second and fourth in the tournament," said Mr. Flores, noting that this achievement was a Brooks youth basketball first. Brooks team #1 coached by Robert Munoz and Brooks team #2 coached by Ernest Trevino finished second and fourth.

The Brooks 13-14 year-old girls team coached by Marty Trevino won the Randolph AFB 13-14 year-old Girls Basketball Tournament on March 12 by defeating Randolph. It is the first time that a Brooks girls team has won a post-season championship. Finishing second in Randolph's 13-14 year-old Boys Basketball Tourney was the Brooks boys team coached by Jessica Avilez.

The Brooks 15-17 year-old boys team coached by Patrick Reyes won the Brooks Youth Sports 15-17 year-old Boys Basketball Tournament on March 12. At least for this season, Brooks is home to a powerhouse youth basketball program, Mr. Flores said.